PROJECTED WORKS, &c.—Tenders have been called for by advertisement for the erection of a church and parsonage-house at Penge, near Sydenham, Kent; for maintenance of the permanent way of the Midland Railway between Nottingham and Lincoln stations, with branch; for the construction of a tunnel at Macclesfield; erecting workshops at the engine-house, Wellington station, Leeds; constructing the Smethwick deviation of 4¾ miles on the Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and Stour-valley Railway; also, for cutting backs water in Kintyre; for executing stone-paving and carriage and foot ways in the city of London, for three years; for the masons' and paviors' works in the parish of St. George, Hanover-square, and for the supply of Guernsey granite chippings and Yorkshire paving—all for one year,—also, for the supply of workmen's tools and hammers, for stone-breaking, and repairs of same, and for iron lamp-posts and gas-fittings, for one year, for same parish; for a supply of 750 tons of best picked broken granite, for the Leicester and Peterborough turnpike-road; and for a supply of 100 tons English tough cake-copper for the Admiralty.

THE WESTMINSTER LITERARY INSTITUTION.—We are glad to find this institution making satisfactory progress. The building debt is paid off, and the list of members numerous. It was pleasing to see the Dean of Westminster and some of his canons leave the Abbey last week to discourse on the progress of knowledge and its wonders in the theatre of the institution. As the Rev. Mr. Millman remarked, after the lecture—"Truth is not less delightful when it condescends to wear a light and graceful garb."

RAILWAY WORK.—The Great Western have resumed full work at Swindon.——The Aire Valley Viaduct of 23 arches, on the Leeds and Thirsk line is well advanced.——A viaduct on the Dewsbury line crosses the same valley.——Some of the embankments on mossy bottoms on the Caledonian line have subsided, and are to be allowed time to consolidate, after being again raised up to the requisite height. The opening of the line, therefore, has been indefinitely postponed, though in other respects ready for working.

GREENWICH TIME AT EDINBURGH.—The Postmaster-General, by letter through his secretary, has recommended the Town Council of Edinburgh to substitute Greenwich time for true time there too, as elsewhere throughout the three kingdoms,—and, he should have added, to consummate the absurdity,—as elsewhere throughout the colonies, on which the sun never sets. The Postmaster-General should go to head quarters at once, and recommend the Professor of Astronomy, at least, or the keeper of the Observatory, at Edinburgh, if not the 'Clerk of the Sun-office,' to alter the set course of time so as to suit the convenience of the clerks of the Post-office. By adopting Greenwich time for the sake of convenience,—adopting it, just as any other lie may be adopted in place of the truth, for the sake of *convenience*,—much time and trouble, says an Edinburgh paper, will be saved, and "travellers east and west will be enabled to meet at some common centre, each with a timepiece in his pocket, and keep his appointment without first consulting the longitude of the town clock." If much time and trouble really could be thus saved consistently with 'rhyme and reason' or the 'harmony of the spheres,' one would have naturally expected to find the local time of that 'common centre' between 'east and west,' recommended for the convenience of those two travellers for whose accommodation the world and its course of time are thus to be virtually turned upside down. But that a world of trouble in place of a saving, though a harvest it may be of trouble to lawyers, will result from such an absurd attempt to save time, or rather to anticipate it, we are very confident. If our town clocks, for instance, are to be universally *deranged*, or those to the westward of Greenwich, at least, or St. Martin's-le-Grand, be made to 'go fast,' like the nigger's own 'turnip,' in order to make the sun set all the sooner, what a fruitful element of confusion, and trouble, and litigation, we shall have in all the parish, and other records of births and deaths, and the heirship, and other questions at law, which are so frequently affected by, and dependant on, points of time, even down to the exact expiry of days, and hours, and minutes of true local time! To other inconveniences and sources of confusion, and of litigation, such as those connected with the true time of stopping payment, &c., in branch banking or other commercial establishments, simultaneously in different towns, we have already alluded, but this one is worthy, even *per se*, of the intervention of Government, in putting a stop to such cantrips of a deranged head-piece as this is.

VALUE OF LAND IN BATTERSEA.—A triangular plot of land in Battersea, adapted for building purposes, and containing 2 acres 3 roods and 31 poles, was recently sold by Messrs. Foster, at the Auction Mart, and fetched 3,700*l*.

THE SURVEY OF LONDON.—Operations for the intended survey of London by the Ordnance department have commenced. Scaffolding has been erected at Westminster Abbey, as a starting place, and various station points have been set up on houses in the suburbs.

THE WATER COMPANIES AND THE CORPORATION OF LIVERPOOL.—Mr. Stephenson, the arbitrator, having concluded his investigation into the claims of the Harrington and Bootle Water Companies, for the surrender of their works to the corporation, has given his award, which arrived in town on Monday evening. The Harrington Company, who claimed 570,000*l*., are to receive 330,719*l*., or 826*l*. 15s. 11d. per share. The Bootle Company, who claimed 354,000*l*., are to have 204,087*l*., or 548*l*. 12s. 5d. per share.

MEETINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES

Held during the ensuing week.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 1.—Institution of Civil Engineers, 8 P.M.

WEDNESDAY, 2.—Society of Arts, 8 P.M.

THURSDAY, 3.—Royal Society, 8½ P.M.; Society of Antiquaries, 8 P.M.

FRIDAY, 4.—Archæological Institute, 4 P.M.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"*J. B.*"—In the Aylsham Union competition, Mr. Donthorne is, we believe, the successful competitor.

"*B. B.*"—We know nothing of the gentleman named.

"*W. C.*"—May use his discretion as to the quadrangle. The throne we may as well have.

"*Artesian Wells.*"—A correspondent asks where he may find most information on Artesian wells.

"*W. B.*"—Can we have a sight of the sketch?

"*H. M. B.*"—Has our correspondent any particulars of the structure?

"Revision of the Buildings' Act" next week.

"*Eftwein Trap.*"—We shall consider several conflicting letters on this subject next week.

Received.—"H. G. L.," "Subscriber A.," "Mr. B." (book did not reach us), "J. S.," "C. B." (declined, with thanks), "One of the party," "Mathematician," "B." (cabman), "C. H. C.," "R. B.," "Col. M." (next week), "W. J." "G. R. W.," "H. L." (unimportant?), "T. S." (Yeovil), "J. H." (Chichester), "C. V." (Charles-street), "J. B." (Lombard-street), "H. W. B." (will appear), "W. R. C." (Leeds), "D. B.," "Junius," "O. P. Q.," "Mr. W." (declined with thanks), "T. W." (thanks—shall appear.)

Books received.—"The Theory and Practice of Ship Building." By T. White, jun. (Johnstone, Paternoster-row). Wood's edition of "Songs of Scotland," Nos. 11 and 12. (Novello, Dean-street).

ADVERTISEMENTS.

TO ARCHITECTS, COMPETITION AND OTHER DRAWINGS.

MR. THOMAS S. BOYS, Member of the New Society of Painters in Water Colours, and author of "The Picturesque Architecture of Paris, Ghent, Rouen, &c.," and of "London as it is," offers his services in Tinting Backgrounds, Landscapes, Perspective Views, Interiors, &c. From the long experience he has had in such subjects, he is fully aware of the points essentially necessary to be attended to. Drawings and designs lithographed in a superior manner.—Address, Mr. BOYS, 81, Great Titchfield-street, Oxford-street.

H. COFFEE, MODELLER, begs to inform Architects, Builders, and Decorators, that they may be supplied, from the largest Assortment of Patterns in London, with Cap Rails, Trusses, Ceiling-Flowers, Consols, Medallions, Coats of Arms, Pattrasses, and every kind of Enrichment for Architectural Purposes, in Composition, Plaster, or Roman Cement, at the Manufactory, No. 6 a, Oxford Market, Oxford-street, on the lowest possible Terms.—Models of every description executed at reduced Charges.

TO EXHIBITORS AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY, &c.

MR. WILLIAM CANSDELL, Architectural Artist, will undertake to prepare for Metropolitan or Provincial Architects and Artists, DRAWINGS or PAINTINGS in Elevation, Perspective, or Landscape, with Figures in appropriate Group and Costume. Interiors, however elaborate, with Details in Scale.—Letters, tracings, &c., may be addressed to Mr. CANSDELL, Office of "The Builder," or 134, Blackfriars-road.

THE most perfect DRY GAS-METER in the World.—N. DEFRIES, Dry Gas Meter-maker, in directing the attention of the Public and the Gas Companies to his having just erected an extensive Factory, 10, Hampstead-road, in conjunction with his old-established premises, 6, St. Martin's-lane, begs to say that he can now MEET any DEMAND for METERS, from 3 lights to 1,000. The sale of 18,000 meters and the rapidly increasing demand, stamp as complete a meter that eight years' experience has proved to be unaffected by weather, by time, or by injurious gas. He invites attention to the fact of many of his large meters being in successful action at the Houses of Parliament, the Royal Dockyards, the Thames Tunnel, Theatres, Churches, Club-houses, &c., and has powerful and flattering testimonials at either factory, which may be obtained on application.

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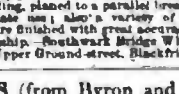

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